



Borough of Kendal.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL-OFFICER-OF-HEALTH,


FOR

1919.

KENDAL :

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1920.



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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Kendal.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1919, compiled in accordance with your instructions and those of the Ministry of Health.

I resumed my duties on February 1st, 1919, after four and a half years of Military Service, during which time the County Medical Officer of Health supervised the work. I am very grateful to him, as this entailed a large increase of responsibility and expenditure of time ; his generosity was never failing.

My thanks are also due to you for the necessary permission to be absent, and I believe that the wide experience thus obtained will result in increased efficiency.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. BARON COCKILL,

Medical Officer of Health.

March 15th, 1920.

BOROUGH OF KENDAL.

Annual Report of the Medical-Officer-of-Health for the Year ending December 31st, 1919.

The Borough of Kendal extended its boundaries on November 10th, by including a portion of the Parish of Scalthwaiterigg : the statistics have been based on the exclusion of this area for the whole of the year.

Area	..	..	..	..	..	2,622 acres.
Population (census 1911)	..	..	..	..	..	14,033
Population (Registrar General's estimate)	..	..	..	..	..	13,822 for Birth Rate. 13,268 for Death Rate.
Population (Local Estimate)	..	..	..	..	..	14,276
Inhabited Houses	..	..	..	..	..	3,350
Average population per House	..	..	..	..	..	4.26

Kendal is picturesquely placed on the river Kent and is irregularly built, the greater part being on the west bank, on ground rising up to the limestone eminence of Kendal Fell, in a series of terraced streets, varying in height from 137 to 350 feet above ordnance. The buildings on the east bank are situated on undulating lowlands rising from 137 to nearly 200 feet contour. The dale of Kendal runs north and south ; the level of the eastern boundary varies from 500 to 600 feet, and consists of Silurian rocks, that of the western boundary being from 300 to 600 feet, and composed of Carboniferous limestone. Alluvium deposits occupy the small northern area of the borough. The climate is mild and the rainfall about 50 inches.

Kendal is a market town serving an agricultural area within a radius of eight miles. In addition there are a number of industries which afford occupation to the inhabitants, the chief of which are :—

Boot and Shoe manufactory.
 Woollen Mills.
 Engineering works.
 Iron Foundries.
 Shaft and Handle Manufactories.
 Hosiery, Blouse and Shirt Manufactories.
 Tobacco Manufactories.
 Breweries.
 Dry-Salters and Dye Manufactories.
 Tanners and Fellmongers.
 Card Manufactories.

None of these have any particular influence on public health.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The net births amounted to 170, being made up as follows :—

Legitimate	Males ..	85	
	Females ..	67	
		—	152
Illegitimate	Males ..	6	
	Females ..	12	
		—	18

Annual rate of births per 1,000 of population	12.29
Annual rate of births for England and Wales	18.5
The net deaths amounted to	187
Annual rate of deaths per 1,000 of population	14.08
Annual rate of deaths for England and Wales	13.8
Excess of deaths over births	17
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	14
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year	1
Infant mortality per 1,000 births	80
Infant mortality for England and Wales	89

The causes of death are shown in the accompanying table :—

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Enteric Fever	2
Scarlet Fever	2
Diphtheria	1
Influenza	9
Erysipelas	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5
Other Tuberculous Diseases	4
Cancer	16
Organic Heart Disease	30
Bronchitis	15
Pneumonia (all forms)	8
Other Respiratory Diseases	4
Nephritis and Brights Disease	5
Parturition apart from Puerperal Fever	1

Congenital Debility, etc.	..	..	..	..	7
Violence, apart from suicide	..	..	..	..	5
Suicide	..	..	..	..	1
Other defined diseases	..	..	..	..	70
Causes ill-defined or unknown	..	..	..	..	1
Total					187

INFANT DEATHS.

The causes of death were :—

Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Convulsions	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Injury at birth	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Prematurity	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Marasmus	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Other causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
							—
				Total	..	..	14

INFANT DEATHS.

The infant deaths occurred at the following ages :—

Under 1 week	..	..	..	..	..	5
Over 1 month and under 3 months	..	..	..	..	..	4
Over 3 months and under 6 months	..	..	..	..	..	3
Over 6 months and under 9 months	..	..	..	..	..	1
Over 9 months and under 12 months	..	..	..	..	..	1

INFANT FEEDING.

Infants dying so soon after birth that they practically received no food	..	..	..	..	..	5
Infants breast fed	..	..	..	..	..	3
Infants artificially fed	..	..	..	..	..	6
Still births notified	..	..	..	..	..	8

The notification of births is not satisfactory, ten per cent. not having been notified during the past year.

The amount of Poor Law Relief is indicated by the following facts :—

Average daily population in Institutions (Kendal Union) about 140.

Annual population receiving out-door relief in Kendal, 140.

The Westmorland County Hospital which contains 50 beds, is always full ; it supplies the needs of all South Westmorland, and partially of the southern portion of North Westmorland.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

The water supply is derived from a large reservoir situated on the eastern side of the town about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant, and two smaller reservoirs at a lower level about a mile distant, supplying the upper and lower portions of the town respectively, and the supply is constant. The catchment area is partially utilised for sheep-grazing, and partially for agriculture. There is no risk of human contamination, but there is a certain amount of animal contamination. The actual area immediately surrounding the upper reservoir has been utilised for grazing during the War time, but this has now been abandoned and the quality of the water has improved considerably. The water is soft and has no plumbo-solvent action; the quantity is abundant. A Bacteriological examination is made monthly.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There is some pollution of the river from Castle Mills and from the sewage disposal works, but it is not excessive; the humus tanks at the latter require to be more frequently sludged, and this would much improve the effluent.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There are two systems :—

(1) A surface water drainage which is discharged direct into the river.

(2) Sewage which is treated in septic tanks, and thence through aerobic filters into humus tanks, the effluent passing into river.

The disposal works are situated a quarter of a mile beyond the south end of the town, and are free from objection. They are not sufficient for dealing with the quantity of sewage received and more filters had been arranged for, but the outbreak of the War prevented their completion.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are only about 40 houses outside the sewerage area which discharge into cess-pools; the number of water closets are as follows :—

Washdown and washout closets	..	..	..	3190
Automatic closets flushed with clean water	..	..	..	186
Tippers flushed with slop water	..	..	..	17
Total				3393

Number of Privies without other accommodation	..	29
Number of Privies with a W.C.	.. .. .	6
Number of Privies outside sewerage area	.. ..	4
Number of Privies in Scalthwaiterigg (added area)	..	36
		<hr/>
	Total	.. 75
		<hr/>
Number of pail closets	.. .. .	21
		<hr/>

Conversions were held up by war conditions in recent years, but in 1919, two such were made.

SCAVENGING.

Removal of house refuse and the contents of Privies, etc., is carried out by the Corporation by horse and cart, and is efficient. It is tipped outside the town, and is innocuous.

During 1919, the number of movable ash bins substituted for ash pits has been 3.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICTS.

This has been regularly carried out, and the defects and nuisances are fully set forth in the Inspector of Nuisances' Report, which is appended. The remedial requirements have been generally carried out quite willingly. There were 73 Statutory Notices served and 388 Informal ones.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

Slaughter House	.. .. .	1
Offensive Trades	.. .. .	17
Cowsheds	.. .. .	13
Common Lodging Houses	.. .. .	3
		<hr/>
		34
		<hr/>

There are no underground sleeping rooms.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911.

Four samples were taken during the year, and contained less than 4 parts of chlorine per 100,000 parts.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition and water supply of the elementary schools is satisfactory. There have been 7 closures during the year on account of the prevalence of Influenza and Measles. Inspection of all individual children in a school where there is an outbreak of Infectious Disease, is regularly made.

FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

All dairy cattle are examined quarterly by a veterinary surgeon for tuberculosis of the udder.

The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops have been regularly inspected and no serious defects found.

MILK.

The supply is good and wholesome and the arrangements for distribution are satisfactory.

MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS, 1912 and 1917.

Twenty-one samples of milk have been examined for preservative and none found—no samples of cream or preserved cream were taken.

MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDER 1918.

The Corporation has authorized the Medical Officer of Health to carry out the provisions of this Order, which has been done in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare work.

(b) OTHER FOODS.

Two boxes of fermenting dates and a small quantity of fish were found to be unsound and destroyed.

The sanitary conditions of premises where food is prepared, stored or exposed for sale is good, and no action was required to be taken in respect of them.

Bakehouses are clean and well kept.

There is a public abattoir in the town, and it is well kept ; it requires some enlargement.

Three carcasses of beasts were destroyed for tuberculosis ; portions of beasts similarly affected were destroyed in eleven other cases. In four cases portions of pigs were destroyed for tuberculosis.

A number of livers of sheep and beasts affected with flukes were condemned.

A good deal of frozen meat was brought into the Town, and the following amounts condemned, on account of the filthy condition through transport or partial decomposition.

Beef	..	..	..	..	..	426 lbs.
Mutton	..	..	..	..	..	59 lbs.
Veal	..	..	..	..	..	52 lbs.

No action had to be taken under Sec. 117 Public Health Act, 1875.

(c) Twenty-one samples of milk were taken and submitted for analysis and one of these was found deficient in milk fat and one in non-fatty solids.

Fines, of £5 in the first and £10 in the second case, were inflicted, together with £1 1s. od. to cover Analyst's fee.

No other samples of food or drugs were taken.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There was an epidemic of Measles from middle of May to the middle of August.

Scarlet Fever was prevalent throughout November and the early part of December. The type of disease was mild, and arose chiefly in connection with two cases that were found desquamating and on whom no suspicion had fallen. There was only one return case of Scarlet Fever throughout the year.

A supply of Diphtheria antitoxin is kept at the Borough Police Station, where it can be obtained at any hour of the day or night. Only one case of Diphtheria was reported, and there were no cases of Encephalitis Lethargica.

There were two cases of Enteric Fever. One occurred in a visitor to the town, who had been nursing her son who died from Enteric: positive Widal was obtained in this case. The other was that of a man who had been ill for 3 months with chronic chest complaint; he died within 12 hours of notification, and no blood test was taken: there was nothing in the surroundings of the house to account for any infection.

Influenza was prevalent in April and May: the type of the disease was not as severe as that of the previous Autumn. The mortality was 9.

The diseases notifiable under the regulations of 7th January, 1919, have not been very numerous. The Malaria and Dysentery cases were all contracted abroad. No Trench Fever was notified.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 30 cases of Pulmonary and 3 of other forms of Tuberculosis notified, and 24 of those received institutional treatment. The effect of Military Service and Munition work was very marked as a predisposing cause. The deaths from the Pulmonary form amounted to 9 and from other forms 4.

Notification by Medical Practitioners has been efficient.

School intimation of Infectious Diseases has been largely utilized, as also have bacteriological aids in suitable cases.

The Tuberculosis work and that of Venereal Diseases is in the hands of the County Medical Officer of Health.

No primary vaccinations or re-vaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small-pox Prevention) Regulations 1917.

There have been no cases of locally contracted Anthrax or Rabies.

TABLE OF NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

				Cases.	Removed to Hospital.
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	2	1
Measles	..	..	..	311	—
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	49	47
Diphtheria	..	..	..	1	1
Erysipelas	..	..	..	5	—
Puerperal Fever	..	..		1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum			..	1	—
Tuberculosis (pulmonary)			..	30	22
Tuberculosis (other forms)			..	3	2
Pneumonia (Influenzal)			..	11	—
Pneumonia (Primary)	..	..		12	—
Malaria	..	..	..	20	—
Dysentery	..	..	..	1	—
				<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	..			447	73
				<hr/>	<hr/>

One case of Scarlet Fever occurred in a Military Hospital and was removed to Isolation hospital, and one case notified as Scarlet Fever and admitted to hospital proved not to be such.

ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.

Enteric Fever	..	..	0.15
Scarlet Fever	..	..	0.15
Diphtheria	..	..	0.07
Phthisis.	..	..	0.37

Report of patients admitted to Isolation Hospital at Kendal, showing diseases, causing admission and whether from Kendal or other Districts.

Month.	PATIENTS ADMITTED.												Days' Residence.		Mean No. of patients in resi- dence.
	Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria.		Typhoid.		Erysipelas.		Measles.		Total.				
	From Kendal.	From other districts.	From Kendal.	From other districts.	From Kendal.	From other districts.	From Kendal.	From other districts.	From Kendal.	From other districts.	From Kendal.	From other districts.			
In Sanatorium prior to January 1, 1919	7	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	4	..	..	..
January ..	1	1	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	156	167	10.42
February ..	3	1	..	5	..	..	1	..	..	..	3	7	89	211	10.71
March ..	3	2	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	7	165	160	10.48
April ..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	1	205	104	13.30
May ..	3	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	2	243	55	9.61
June ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	182	60	8.06
July ..	6	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	6	186	165	11.32
August ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	14	151	8.87
September ..	3	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	10	94	186	9.33
October ..	2	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	23	12	753	28.87
November ..	14	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	24	199	927	37.53
December ..	7	9	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	11	493	844	43.12
Totals ..	49	79	1	17	1	..	..	2	..	1	51	99	2278	4373	18.22

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The County Council is the supervising Authority under the Midwives Act, 1902 and 1918.

The Maternity and Child Welfare work has been undertaken during the War period by a Voluntary Committee who worked it in association with a Club for the wives of soldiers and sailors, with an attractive social element, and the then Health Visitor saw for the most part the infants and gave advice, etc. Since the need for this Club has disappeared, the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have had the supervision, but the administrative work is undertaken by a Voluntary Association, to which is attached for duty the Medical Officer of Health and the Health Visitor.

A consultation centre is open one afternoon each week, and every child and mother is seen by the Medical Officer, and through the week visits are paid to the homes by the Health Visitor. No treatment is given at the Centre, but where necessary the patient is referred to the usual Medical Attendant.

This plan has been in operation since the middle of June. There was a decline in attendance at first, owing to the lack of social attraction, but the work is steadily progressing and prospering.

Visits paid to Children by Health Visitor	2406
Visits paid to Mothers by Health Visitor	136
Childrens consultations at Centre	299
Mother's consultations at Centre	49

Nurses and Midwives are encouraged to bring their cases to the Centre. Virol and Maltine are supplied at cost price and there is a cup of tea and light refreshment to be obtained at nominal charges.

The premises are somewhat cramped, but a more commodious Centre is in view at no distant date.

There is no Maternity Home or Hospital, but a scheme is being considered for establishing Maternity Wards at the County Hospital.

The County Hospital provides accommodation at present for all abnormal cases of labour, and as in-patients for all non-infectious cases occurring in children under 5 years of age.

No investigations have been made regarding still-births, but all infant deaths are enquired into. Unmarried mothers and illegitimate children are usually cared for in their own homes, and assistance is given them where required under the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order 1918. The administration of this Order is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health at the Local Welfare Centre.

There is entire co-operation with the School Medical Service.

There was only one case of Puerperal Fever notified and one case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum. In this latter case both eyes were affected, but no permanent injury resulted.

All cases of Measles were visited by the Health Visitor, and no deaths occurred. Additional nursing for Puerperal Fever, Measles, Diarrhoea, etc. has been provided for, by an arrangement with the Home Nursing Association.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

1. *Staff.* There is one Inspector of Nuisances, who is assisted by his Clerk.

2. The Hospital accommodation for ordinary Infectious Disease, consists of 4 blocks, capable of dealing with 46 cases, and a further building situated 3 miles out of the Town for Small-pox; this can accommodate 50 patients. There is a good disinfecting plant. The Isolation Hospital serves the whole of South Westmorland with the exception of Windermere, and an occasional case at Grasmere and Kirkby Lonsdale, each of these places having a small building for this purpose.

The Small-pox Hospital serves the whole of South Westmorland.

The accommodation is generally quite adequate, though there is occasional congestion.

The ordinary Hospital is always staffed, and the Small-pox Hospital is kept aired, etc. by a caretaker, and is staffed when required. There has been no Small-pox for several years.

The Hospital administration is good.

3. *Local Acts, Orders and Adopted Acts.* The following are in operation :—

Kendal Corporation Gas and Water Acts 1894.

Sanitary Clauses of Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890.

Sanitary Clauses of Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907.

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act 1890.

Museums and Gymnasium Act 1891, as to Museums.

Public Libraries Act.

Baths and Washhouses.

Private Streets Act 1892.

Byelaws are made in connection with :—

Private Scavenging.

Offensive Trades.

Prevention of Nuisances.

Markets and Fairs.

Tents and Vans.

Open Spaces and Pleasure Grounds.

New Streets and Buildings.

Means of escape from fire (Factories).

Regulations under Sec. 13. Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885.

Cemeteries.

The administration of these is effectively carried out.

4. *Laboratories.* The Combined Districts of Westmorland have established local Laboratories for chemical and bacteriological examinations, and these have been in operation since August. Prior to that date, examinations were made by the Public Health Laboratories at Manchester.

The Laboratories are under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health. They are proving of great service, and are being utilized more and more.

Examinations for Kendal, made during the latter five months of the year, numbered 49.

Most of the examinations are for Diphtheria and Water, and a few for Tubercle bacilli. The examination for this latter is generally done at the Westmorland Consumption Sanatorium, but where an immediate result is desired, it is done locally.

HOUSING.

GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Number of Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	3350
Working Class Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	2332
New Houses for Working Classes erected or in course of erection	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Population (estimated)	..	..	..	..	..	..	14276

There were no important changes during the year nor anticipated in the near future.

Extent of shortage of Houses:—

To meet unsatisfied demand	..	..	..	66
To replace existing houses	..	..	..	205

A scheme for building these houses has already been submitted, and approved.

OVERCROWDING.

There is a general tendency to overcrowding in the smaller houses and to a less extent in the larger ones, due to the size of families, and the marriages of soldier sons returned, who are unable to find accommodation elsewhere.

No measures can be taken to overcome this till more houses are built.

FITNESS.

A large number of houses are situated in yards opening off the main streets, and lack sufficient air space and lighting. No less than 205 should be done away with and this would lead to improvement in 499 others, which are at present defective.

Minor remedies have been effected during the year under the Public Health Acts by means of 388 informal and 73 formal notices, but the work is of necessity only slowly accomplished owing to the small amount of labour available, and no real advance can be made till more new houses are available.

There are no great difficulties as regards water supply and refuse disposal.

UNHEALTHY AREAS.

There are no extensive areas that can be included under this heading, and no action has been taken nor any complaint made during the year.

BYE-LAWS.

The working of Bye-laws is good and there is no need for any new ones or revision of existing ones.

GENERAL.

No action has been taken other than the remedying of minor defects already referred to.

APPENDICES.

- | | | |
|-------|---|------|
| i. | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which complaints were made by householders that they were unfit for human habitation | Nil. |
| ii. | Number of dwelling houses inspected under Sec 17, Housing Act, 1909 | 206 |
| | Number of dwelling houses condemned as unfit for human habitation | 205 |
| | Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied without the making of Closing Orders | 22 |
| iii. | Action under Section 28, Housing Act, 1919 .. | Nil. |
| iv. | Number of representations made to Authority for the making of Closing Orders | Nil. |
| | Number of Closing Orders made | Nil. |
| | Number of Closing Orders determined on houses being made fit | Nil. |
| v. | Number of demolition orders made. | 1 |
| | Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil. |
| vi. | Number of dwelling houses demolished voluntarily | Nil. |
| vii. | Number of representation made regarding obstructive buildings | Nil. |
| | Number of buildings demolished | Nil. |
| | Number of representations under consideration .. | Nil. |
| viii. | The Staff engaged in housing duties consists of one Inspector and one Clerk who carry out the whole of the duties between them, in addition to their Sanitary duties already referred to. | |

The Report of the Sanitary Inspector is appended.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Kendal.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report of the work done by the Sanitary Department during the year ending December 31st, 1919.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

The following is a summary of the nuisances and other breaches of the Public Health Acts and Byelaws in force in the Borough which were discovered :—

DRAINAGE AND PAVEMENT OF YARDS.

Defective drains reconstructed	..	..	..	..	..	7
Choked drains	..	..	..	..	..	29
Defective gullies	..	..	..	..	..	3
Defective soil or vent pipes	..	..	..	..	..	2
Defective pavement of yards	..	..	..	..	..	8
Yards requiring cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	4

DWELLINGS.

Houses requiring cleansing and limewashing	..	..	..	..	..	4
Bedrooms insufficiently lighted or ventilated	..	..	..	..	..	18
Living rooms	do.	do.				10
Pantries	do.	do.				2
Defective washhouse	..	..	..	..	..	1
Houses overcrowded	..	..	..	..	..	3
Houses with defective roofs	..	..	..	..	..	6
Houses with defective floors	..	..	..	..	..	5
Houses with defective ceilings	..	..	..	..	..	1
Houses with defective stairs	..	..	..	..	..	2
Houses with damp walls	..	..	..	..	..	4
Houses with defective sink or sink waste	..	..	..	..	..	20
Houses with defective eaves or down spouts	..	..	..	..	..	6
Houses with insufficient water supply	..	..	..	..	..	25
Living rooms with low ceilings	..	..	..	..	..	4
Bedrooms with low ceilings	..	..	..	..	..	8
Living room below ground level	..	..	..	..	..	1

WATER CLOSETS.

Defective water closets	..	..	..	..	..	40
Defective trough and tipper closets	..	..	..	..	..	3
Water closets with insufficient water supply	..	..	..	..	..	20
Water closets requiring cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	9

PRIVIES AND ASHPITS.

Defective privies	..	..	..	..	..	2
Defective ashpits	..	..	..	..	..	3
Defective ashbins	..	..	..	..	..	84
Defective pail closets	..	..	..	..	..	5

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Insufficient, unsuitable or defective Sanitary Accommodation	7
Workshops requiring cleansing	5
Bakehouse with defective walls	1
Insufficient means of escape in case of fire	1

GENERAL.

Cowshed requiring limewashing	1
Stables with defective paving and drainage	7
Stables without receptacles for manure	3
Accumulations of offensive refuse	19
Smoke nuisance	1
Living van without sanitary accommodation	1
Common lodging houses, bedding dirty	2
Gut scraping on unregistered premises	1
Total	388

388 informal and 73 formal notices were served in connection with the above nuisances.

It was not necessary in any case to take proceedings before the Magistrates.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Enquiries were made into 136 cases of notifiable diseases and 53 cases were removed to the Sanatorium.

To prevent duplication of duties, all measles enquiries were undertaken by the Health Visitor.

105 rooms, in which cases of infectious disease had occurred, were disinfected by fumigation with formalin

The steam disinfector was working on 98 days during the year.

HOUSES OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

New Houses.

No houses of any description were built during the year.

Tenders amounting to £4,393 were accepted in July for the erection of 8 houses at Two Stiles Field from plans prepared by the Borough Surveyor and work has been commenced.

The Castle Road site and the preliminary lay out has been approved by the Ministry of Health. This scheme provides for the erection of 208 houses.

Old Houses.

No. of houses inspected under the Housing Acts	206
No. of Closing Orders made	0
No. of Demolition Orders	1
No. of notices under Sec. 15 (4) H. & T. O. Act, 1909	7
No. of notices under P.H.A.	15

Great difficulty was met with in getting any repairs of a substantial nature done owing to the high cost of labour and material.

Although a very large number of houses are unfit for habitation, and many of these are in such a situation that they cannot be made

fit, it was not considered wise to issue any Closing Orders, on account of the shortage of houses.

A general survey of the housing needs in the Borough was made in October and the following facts were submitted to the Ministry of Health :—

Total number of houses in district	3350
No. let at less than £16 per annum	2332
No. let between £16 and £20 do.	612
No. of houses built between Jan., 1915 and Dec., 1918 ..	35
Average number built per annum during 5 years prior to 1914	20
No. of houses occupied by more than one family ..	50
(1) No. of houses required during next 3 years to meet the demand on account of overcrowding, &c. ..	56
(2) To replace dwellings which are not fit for habitation and cannot be made fit	205
(3) To meet deficiencies owing to industrial development ..	10
Total ..	271
Less number likely to built by private enterprise ..	15
No. required ..	256

The survey disclosed that there are 205 houses in the district which are not and cannot be made fit for habitation and there are also 499 houses which are seriously defective.

With regard to the 205 houses, the main reason that they cannot be made fit is that they are situated for the most part in narrow yards and lack air space and in many cases are back to back. The improvements to the 499 can only be made by the demolition of the 205, thereby providing a sufficient air space surrounding each house, direct sunlight and through ventilation. Before any serious attempt can be made to carry out these improvements new houses will have to be erected to accommodate the dispossessed tenants.

The present standard of sufficiency of sanitary accommodation approved by the Health Committee, viz. : 1 W.C. for 3 houses, should in the interests of decency be gradually amended until each house has its own separate sanitary accommodation.

The question of overcrowding is a very difficult one and cannot be dealt with properly until more housing accommodation is provided. Many cases of overcrowding were discovered but nothing could be done to abate these owing to the existing shortage of houses.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Inspection.

	Inspections.	Notices.
Factories	67	5
Workshops	426	9
Workplaces	53	0
	546	14

Defects.

Insufficient, unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation	7
Workshops not kept in a cleanly condition	5
Bakehouses with defective walls	1
Insufficient means of escape in case of fire	1
	<hr/>
	14
	<hr/>

General.

Workshops on Register	146
Underground Bakehouses	2
Defects notified by Factory Inspector	5

SHOPS ACT.

No Closing Orders fixing the hours of closing of shops have been made, this matter being now regulated by D.O.R.A.

Thursday is the day generally chosen for the weekly half holiday.

Several shops are now making a practice of closing during the dinner hour.

No infringements of the Shops Acts were reported or discovered. 530 visits of inspection were made to shops during the year.

CANAL BOATS.

17 Canal Boats were inspected.

No infringements of the Acts or Regulations were discovered. The boats were generally in good condition and kept in a cleanly state notwithstanding the fact that coal is the material carried. Children were carried on 7 of the boats inspected.

No cases of infectious disease were notified or discovered on any boat.

There are no boats on the register of the Local Authority.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

No. of Purveyors of Milk on Register, 1918	46
No. of Purveyors of Milk registered during 1919	9
	<hr/>
	55
No. discontinued milk selling	11
	<hr/>
Total	44
	<hr/>
No. of Cowsheds on Register, 1918	11
No. registered during 1919	2
	<hr/>
Total	13
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During the year 52 visits of inspection were made to Cowsheds. Mr. Rimmer, M.R.C.V.S. continued to act as Veterinary Inspector and examined all dairy cows within the Borough four times a year for the detection of tuberculosis.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

Public Analyst :—Mr. R. Hellon, Ph.D., F.I.C.

No. of samples taken	..	..	..	..	..	21
Formal samples	..	..	..	..	..	17
Informal samples	..	..	..	..	..	4
No. submitted to Public Analyst	..	..	..	..	..	21
No. reported not genuine	..	..	..	..	..	4

All samples were of milk and the results are tabulated below.

No.	Result of Analysis.		Legal Proceedings.	Remarks.
	Milk-fat.	Non-fatty Solids.		
1	3.70	8.70		
2	3.10	8.90		
3	3.00	8.50		
4	4.10	9.00		
5	5.50	8.60		
6	3.50	8.90		
7	2.50	8.60		Sample too far decomposed to take any action Further sample, No. 16 taken later.
8	3.30	8.90		Informal.
9	3.00	9.10		
10	3.50	8.80		Informal.
11	2.57	8.27	Vendor fined £5 and £1 is. od. costs.	Appeal to cow sample also taken. No. 13.
12	3.50	8.90		
13	3.17	8.98		Appeal to cow sample in case No. 11.
14	3.25	8.00		Informal sample from vendor of No. 11.
15	3.10	8.94		
16	3.51	7.58	Vendor fined £10 and £1 is. od. costs.	Same vendor as No. 7 Appeal to cow sample also taken, see No. 20.
17	3.30	8.60		
18	3.70	8.80		
19	4.10	8.70		
20	4.50	8.90		Appeal to cow sample in case No. 16.
21	3.68	7.78		Informal sample from vendor of No. 16.

The Sale of Milk Regulations 1901 provide that where a sample of milk contains less than 3 per cent. of milk fat or less than 8.5 per cent.

of non-fatty solids, it shall be presumed until the contrary is proved that the milk is not genuine.

Taking the whole of the 21 samples, genuine and non-genuine, the average percentages were, milk fat 3.5 ; and non-fatty solids 8.64.

It has been the practice where a sample of milk falls below the prescribed minimum to go to the cowshed and take an " appeal to the cow " sample. This is an almost infallible test whether the milk has been tampered with and at the same time protects the innocent producer whose cows for some reason may be giving poor milk.

The penalties inflicted in the two cases, viz. : £10 and £5 are very light, considering the high price of milk and the profits made by the adulteration.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912.

1. *Milk and Cream not sold as preserved Cream.*

	Number of samples examined for the presence of a preservative.	Number in which a preservative was reported to be present.
Milk ..	21	None.
Cream ..	None	None

No samples of cream sold as preserved cream were taken.

SLAUGHTER HOUSE AND MEAT INSPECTION.

195 visits of inspection were made to the Public Slaughter House. The need for modernizing and enlarging the Slaughter House is very great, and should have the serious consideration of the Council. The Slaughtering of animals cannot be spread out over the whole week, most of the work being done on two days and consequently there is a congestion. At times it has been necessary to slaughter sheep in the byres when there was not room in the slaughter house. One of the beast slaughter houses has been appropriated for a hanging room for sheep carcasses and this tends to intensify the congestion. During the summer months a large amount of imported frozen meat had to be used on account of the restricted supply of home fed animals. This was all delivered at the slaughter house for inspection and division. On many occasions this meat arrived in a filthy condition, owing to being conveyed on the railway insufficiently covered. Representation was made to the Railway Authorities and this matter was remedied. A small proportion of the meat became unfit for consumption owing to the hot weather and length of time in transit and this was condemned.

The number of animals slaughtered at the Public Slaughter House during the past 3 years is given below :—

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.	Total.
1917 ..	950	5774	790	32	7546
1918 ..	549	7181	736	7	8473
1919 ..	672	7731	1076	192	9671

14 beasts and 4 pigs were found to be affected with tuberculosis and were dealt with as follows :—

<i>Portion Destroyed.</i>	<i>No. of Cases.</i>
(Beasts)	
Total carcase and viscera	3
Complete viscera and udder	1
Lungs and liver	4
Lungs	6
(Pigs)	
Pharyngeal glands	4

The following meat was also destroyed :—

Sheeps livers affected with flukes	16
Beasts livers affected with flukes	7
Carcase of sheep (parturient)	1
Stomach and intestines of pig (inflammation)	1
Frozen beef	426lbs.
Frozen mutton	59lbs.
Veal	52lbs.

A case of slaughtering on unlicensed premises was discovered by the Police. The offender was summoned before the Magistrates and fined £10. All premises where meat is prepared for food have been visited and were found to be in a cleanly condition.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The following offensive trades are established within the Borough.

Gut Scraper	1
Tripe Boiler	1
Tallow Melter	1
Leather Dresser	1
Fellmonger and leather dresser	1
Fellmonger and Fat Extractor	1
Fish Fryers	8
Rag and Bone Dealers	3

17

During the year consent was granted to establish two new fish frying shops.

97 visits of inspection were made to premises where offensive trades were established.

POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The Rivers Pollution Act is administered by the County Council, who have their own Inspector.

Pollution of the Kent by effluent from Castle Mills was observed on several occasions. This matter is now having attention. The river bed between the Parish Church and Miller Bridge became very foul during the dry summer months. Adjacent occupiers were warned against throwing refuse into the river.

SCHOOLS.

Sanitary conveniences at all the schools are in a satisfactory condition. The closets are all of the water carriage type, flushed automatically and under the care of the School Caretakers. Water from the Corporation mains is laid to all the schools.

WATER SUPPLY.

With the exception of about 20 houses, all premises within the Borough are supplied from the Water Department's mains.

There were many complaints of lack of pressure during the year, and this matter is now having the attention of the Water Department.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911.

Four samples of rag flock were taken during the year, and on analysis all were found to contain less than 4 parts of chlorine to 100,000 parts of flock.

RATS ORDER 1918.

During the seven months June to December, payment of 3d. per tail was made for 308 rats tails.

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL.

No. of loads of refuse from shops and ashbins	..	..	3080
No. of loads of refuse from ashpits	..	..	789
Total Loads			3867
Average weight per load	..	..	25 cwt.
Weight of refuse removed	..	..	4834 tons.
Cost per ton removal	..	..	7s. od.
Cost per ton disposal	..	..	1s. od.
No. of Ashpits emptied 4 times a year	..	..	226
No. of ashpits emptied weekly	..	..	6
No. of ashpits emptied fortnightly	..	..	5
No. of ashpits emptied monthly	..	..	9
			246
No. of ashpits emptied in Scalthwaiterigg	..	..	75
Total ashpits			321

Ashpits abolished during the year	..	..	..	..	3
No. of ashpits in use (approx.)	..	..	..	..	2000

All refuse is disposed of by tipping on land at Parkside Tip. This tip is fast approaching completion and it is proposed to open a new tip at the Sewage Disposal Works.

The extreme distance for refuse to be carted to the tip is about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles.

No charge is made for collectiong refuse from retail shops and offices, which is collected weekly. Fish offal is removed daily free of charge.

A small amount of trade refuse from factories and workshops is removed and charged for.

The amount of refuse to be removed has increased considerably and during the winter months it requires 4 horses and carts per day, whereas three used to be able to do the work. The increase is due chiefly to the inferior nature of the coal used, which produces a large proportion of ash.

EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

(Privies).

No. of privies where there is no other accommodation	..	..	29
No. of privies in Scalthwaiterigg (added area)	..	..	36
No. of privies where there is also a W.C.	..	..	6
No. of privies outside sewerage area but cleansed by Council	.		4
			<hr/> 75 <hr/>
No. of pail closets	..	..	21
No. of privies converted to water closets during 1919	..	..	2

(Water Carriage).

The whole of the district is well sewered, there being only about 40 houses outside the sewerage area which discharge their sewage into cesspools which are emptied by the Council on demand. The following is a summary of the water closets in the district:—

Washdown and washout closets	..	..	..	..	3190
Automatic closets (tipper and syphonic) flushed with clean water	..	..	..	..	186
Tipplers flushed with slop water	..	..	..	..	17
					<hr/>
Total	..				3393 <hr/>

GEO. JACKSON,

Sanitary Inspector.

TITUS WILSON, AND SON, PRINTERS, KENDAL.
